



Browntasauras Records recording artist

BROWNMAN

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"Brownman... one of the next great voices in the new generation of jazz improvisers."

-- Randy Brecker, multiple Grammy winning jazz trumpet legend & long-time mentor to Brownman

Called **"Canada's preeminent jazz trumpeter"** by NYC's Village Voice and considered one of the most acclaimed improvisers residing in Canada, **Brownman**, born on the small Caribbean island of Trinidad, is the multiple award winning NYC-schooled protégé to his teacher - Grammy-winning trumpet legend **Randy Brecker**. In the spirit of supreme trumpet genre-crossing visionaries such as **Brecker** and **Miles Davis**, he tirelessly leads and composes actively for no less than 7 ensembles of his own. He is also a musical director and/or featured soloist in countless other groups; testament to his unparalleled diversity of musical vision and skills making him one of Canada's most decorated jazz artists and a highly in demand session call for both **Universal** and **Sony/BMG** recording studios in forms of music ranging from be-bop to hip-hop. As a featured soloist he has appeared with Canada's leading Latin, urban, hip-hop, reggae, island and DJ artists in addition to his foundational jazz milieu. With just under **300** recording credits to his name - many of these albums having won or been nominated for Junos (Canada's Grammy) - he is considered to be one of the most unique and provocative improvising trumpet players on the scene today. He is widely regarded as a vanguard for the evolution of jazz in Canada.



As a leader, he is best known for his work with his multi-award winning latin-jazz-urban ensemble **CRUZAO**. They have toured Canada's jazz festival and club circuit extensively, winning the 2001 Montreal Jazz Fest's coveted **"Grand Prix du Jazz Award"** leading to his being signed to the prestigious **Justin Time Records** label, simultaneous to Brownman winning a CBC-Galaxie **"Rising Star"** award. The subsequent 2002 release of **"Shades Of Brown"** would rocket to #1 on Canada's jazz charts and remain there for 3 months as **CRUZAO** toured internationally. Brownman would be awarded a **National Jazz Award** for **"Composer of the Year"** for the tunes he composed on that same recording. Europe welcomed the **BROWNMAN ACOUSTIC TRIO** in 2002 & 2003 and the **BROWNMAN ELECTRYC TRIO** in 2004 as the groups toured that continent and recorded 2 records released on European labels. 2005 would see extensive Canadian touring in early months of the year and the later with a South American tour beginning in Cuba. At the personal invitation of legendary pianist **Chucho Valdes**, he would represent Canada at the **Havana Jazz Festival**; leading **CRUZAO HAVANA** comprised of an all-Cuban rhythm section featuring members of the essential Afro-Cuban ensemble **IRAKERE** performing original Brownman compositions as recorded by **CRUZAO**. This performance marked the beginning of a two month extensive tour of South and Central America concluding with a gig with jazz saxophone legend **GARY BARTZ** in Belize and a recording session in Cuba with the luminous timba group **CHISPA Y LOS COMPLICES**. 2006 was a busy year and included 7 national and international tours, a multitude of recording sessions and appearances with such legends as legendary rapper **GURU**, pop superstar **NELLY FURTADO** & NYC Brazilian harmonica icon **HENDRIK MEURKENS**.

From 2006 to 2010, Brownman was the featured soloist with the legendary New York City jazz-hip-hop artist **GURU** (of Gangstarr fame) for his **JAZZMATAZZ** ensemble (replacing Donald Byrd in that group), catalyzing his appearing on the cover of **CODA** magazine, Canada's most acclaimed jazz publication. In Dec 2009, Brownman would launched his own independent record label **Browntasauras Records**, with the **BROWNMAN ELECTRYC TRIO** (2007 National Jazz Award winners for "Electric Group of the Year") debut recording *Juggernaut* as it's flagship release, along with re-issues of his entire back-catalog from other groups he leads.

Since returning to Canada from NYC, Brownman has been on the cutting edge of modern music in the nation for the last decade, winning multiple awards nationally, and achieving international recognition while touring the globe.

Brownman also holds a degree in physics, a minor in philosophy, writes the brass column for Canadian Musician Magazine and is an often called upon international lecturer and clinician on such topics as *"advanced jazz harmony"*, *"hip-hop and the modern jazz improviser"* & *"latin rhythms for the jazz improviser"*.

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With just under 300 recording appearances & over 4000 live performances to his name, he has performed or recorded with the likes of **Wayne Shorter, Randy Brecker, John Scofield, Charlie Hunter, Gary Bartz, Gary Thomas, Soulive, Fertile Ground, Kenny Wheeler, Hugh Fraser, Don Thompson, Kirk Macdonald, Pat Labarbera, Dave Restivo, Dave Young, Stich Wynston, Kelly Jefferson, Quincin Nachoff, Heather Bambrick, Philosopher Kings, Guru, Jazzmatazz, KRS-1, Big Daddy Kane, Kool Herc, K-OS, Kyprios, Rikoshay, Pocket Dwellers, DJ Dopey, DJ Cutler, DJ Q-bert, Nelly Furtado, Dave Matthews Band, Paul Simon, Moses Mayes, God Made Me Funky, Ashanti, Divine Brown, Grúvoria, One Step Beyond, Kush, Jason Wilson, Tabarruk, D'bi Young, Dub Trinity, Kobo Town, Irakere, NG La Banda, Chucho Valdes, Danilo Perez, Hilario Duran, Horacio Hernandez, Energia Latina, Chiva, Bestial, Cimarron, Ricky Franco, Fito Blanco, Eliana Cuevas, Luanda Jones, Pavlo, Plan C, Macondo, Pacande, Banda Bella, Dominicanada & far too many more to list here...**



AS A LEADER :

Brownman currently leads and composes actively for 7 groups of his own, all of which have garnered critical acclaim in their own diverse idioms:

CRUZAO

– highly acclaimed multiple award-winning latin-jazz-urbania quintet

CRUZAO GRUPO MONSTRUOSO

– 15-man latin-jazz-urban orchestra permutation of CRUZAO

GRUVASYLUM

– hip-hop, drum'n'bass and breakbeats... with a jazz ideology

BROWNMAN ELECTRYC TRIO

– electrified award-winning trio in the spirit of Miles Davis' electric years

BROWNMAN AKAUSTIC TRIO/QUARTET/QUINTET

– mainstream hard-swinging NYC-style jazz

MARRÓN MATIZADO

– 11-man highly energized Salsa powerhouse, fusing modern salsa & jazz

ARECIBO

– modern deeply exploratory latin-jazz quartet in the spirit of Jerry Gonzalez's Fort Apache Band



AWARDS & ACCOLADES :

2012 Brownman Electryc Trio - Independent Music Award nominee - "**Jazz Group of the Year**"
 2012 Brownman named "**2012 Artist To Watch**" by Resonancity magazine
 2011 Brownman inducted into the "**WHO'S WHO IN BLACK CANADA**" National directory
 2010 Brownman Electryc Trio - Independent Music Award nominee - "**Jazz Group of the Year**"
 2010 Brownman Electryc Trio - Artvoice Magazine nominee for "**Jazz Act of the Year**"
 2009 Brownman - named "**favorite touring soloist**" (w/ Jazzmatazz) by London, UK's Jazz After Dark
 2008 Brownman Electryc Trio - Independent Music Award nominee - "**Jazz Group of the Year**"
 2008 Brownman Electryc Trio - National Jazz Award nominee - "**Electric Jazz Group of the Year**"
 2007 Brownman - NOW Magazine's "**Toronto Jazz Trumpet Player of the Year**"
 2007 Brownman Electryc Trio - National Jazz Award winner - "**Electric Jazz Group of the Year**"
 2007 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "**Musician of the Year**"
 2007 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "**Latin-jazz artist of the Year**"
 2007 Brownman - SOCAN National Jazz Award nominee - "**Composer of the Year**"
 2007 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "**Instrumentalist of the Year**" (flugelhorn)
 2006 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "**Latin-jazz artist of the Year**"
 2005 Brownman - NOW Magazine's "**Toronto Jazz Artist of the Year**".
 2004 Brownman & CRUZAO - Independent Music Award nominee - "**Jazz Group of the Year**"
 2003 MARRON MATIZADO - "**Best Toronto Salsa Band**" (SalsaSPOT)
 2002 Brownman - National Jazz Award winner - "**Jazz Composer of the Year**"
 2002 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "**Jazz Trumpet Player of the Year**"
 2001 Brownman & CRUZAO - winner of the Montreal Jazz Fest's "**Grand Prix Du Jazz Award**"
 2001 Brownman & CRUZAO - winner of the CBC Galaxie "**Rising Star Award**"
 Brownman - 3 time nominee for "**Jazz Trumpet Player of the Year**" (NJA).
 Brownman & CRUZAO - 4 time nominee for "**Electric Group of the Year**" (NJA).

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QUOTES :

"... one of the next great voices in the new generation of jazz improvisers"

-- Randy Brecker, Grammy award winning trumpeter

"... a great writer, energized trumpeter and thoughtful evolved soloist"

-- John Scofield, legendary jazz guitarist

"... uniquely creative and fearless... like a young Miles Davis"

- Guru, legendary hip-hop icon from Gangstarr/Jazzmatazz fame

"... extraordinarily talented... a modernist for sure... a truly gifted improviser with an original creative voice"

-- Gary Bartz, saxophonist to Miles Davis in the 70's

"... Canada's preeminent jazz trumpeter"

-- Village Voice, New York City

"... energy is never in short supply in Brownman's world. This Toronto/Trinidadian trumpeter loves skipping from style to style almost as much as he digs mixing it up with the jazz elite"

-- NOW magazine, Toronto (cover story)

"...deliciously quirky & invigorating... seethes with energy..."

-- Toronto Star

"... the most versatile hornman in Canada"

-- Chicago Tribune

"... virtuostic, energized and in the spirit of Miles Davis"

-- National Post

"... a warm, personable soloist displaying an engaging mix of quirks and lyricism."

-- Globe and Mail

"Brownman Ali's powerful electrified trio captures the essence of the later years in Miles Davis' life, his electric period, without imitation."

-- JazzOnline.com

"Brownman Electryc Trio plays with fire and intensity ... every track executed with skill and feeling ... it's visceral and edgy... it recalls the music Miles Davis made in the early '70s."

-- Errol Nazareth, The Toronto Sun

"It's incredible the energy output these three men can generate... with only three of them on stage my ears would swear they were hearing a whole electrified orchestra".

-- Toronto's NOW Magazine (concert review)

"Guru's Jazzmatazz trumpet player brings virtuosity and panache in jazz together in his Electryc Trio"

-- CBC Radio Canada

"Brownman's Electryc Trio is lively, entertaining and hip ... the atmosphere is seriously funky ... the music's muscular and quick, much of it thrilling..."

-- Whole Note Magazine

"It's hard to imagine this trio being more in the pocket, more energetic."

-- Peter Hum, The Ottawa Citizen

"Brownman... Ali... Marrón... this young trumpet player has as many names as he has skills"

-- Canada Picante Xpress Latin Magazine

